

Stop the Brutal Suppression of Falun Gong in China!

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Practicing Falun Gong Was A Right, Ms. Chen Said, Up To Her Last Day

By Ian Johnson, April 20, 2000 WEIFANG, China



The day before Chen Zixiu died, her captors again demanded that she renounce her faith in Falun Dafa. Barely conscious after repeated jolts from a cattle prod, the 58-year-old stubbornly shook her head.

Enraged, the local officials ordered Ms. Chen to run barefoot in the snow. Two days of torture had left her legs bruised and her short black hair matted with pus and blood, said cellmates and other prisoners who witnessed the incident. She crawled outside, vomited and collapsed. She never regained consciousness, and died on Feb. 21...

In the past 22 months at least 203 Falun Gong practitioners have died in police custody. Here are some of their names:

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|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Chen Ying, F, 18 | Mei Yulan, F, 44 | Yu Xiangmei, F, 35 |
| Zhao Dong, M, 38 | Wang Xiuying, F, 45 | Liu Zhengqiang, M, 22 |
| Wang Guoping, M, 40 | Li Yanhua, F, 45 | Liu Hongchun, F, 57 |
| Dong Buyun, F, 36 | Tian Shiqiang, M | Shao Shisheng, M, 56 |
| Zhao Jinhua, F, 42 | Zhang Zhenggang, M, 36 | Li Baoshui, M, 39 |
| Zhu Shaolan, F, 50 | Su Gang, M, 32 | Liu Yufeng, M, 64 |
| Zhang Shuqi, F, 52 | Miu Qun, F | Wang Xuezhi, M, 30 |
| Liu Zhilan, F, 40 | Wang Xingtian, M, 44 | Sun Xiuqin, F, 50s |
| Gao Xianmin, M, 41 | Li Jianbin, F, 23 | Yao Baorong, F, 52 |
| Liu Xuguo, M, 29 | Li Zaiji, M, 44 | Yin Shurun, F, 46 |
| Chen Zixiu, F, 59 | Wang Peisheng, M, 68 | Fu Xiaoxiu's Mother, 56 |
| Yang Xueqin, M, 36 | An Xiukun, F, 49 | Li Faming, M, 52 |
| Li Huixi, M, 40 | Sun Shuqin, F, 58 | Yang Weidong, M, 54 |
| Guan Chaosheng, M | Zhang Yuzhen, F, 46 | Sun Xiaobai, F, 36 |
| Zhou Zhichang, M, 45 | Gong Baohua, F, 35 | Zhou Chunmei, F, 62 |
| Unknown, F, 45 | Li Guihua, F, 47 | Xia Wei, F, 43 |

No police officer or government official has ever been so much as reprimanded for these atrocities; in fact, many of them are rewarded based on how brutally they punish the practitioners in their area.

Please Help These Courageous Practitioners

Each practitioner who has stepped forward to tell the truth about Falun Gong has risked so much, but for them, all the pain and loss is worth the effort if they can help bring the freedom of belief to China. To seek goodness and truth in the world is at once so basic and yet so noble.

Anything that you as an individual can do to show your support will mean a great deal to the practitioners in China. If you would like to help, here are some suggestions:

- 1) Tell your friends and family about Falun Gong and the persecution in China – the more the world knows about the torture and abuse, the more the Chinese authorities will think twice before they do anything drastic;
- 2) Invite a Falun Gong volunteer to speak at your local community or social organization; or
- 3) Call for action and support from your local media, Congressman or Senator, or human rights group.

Many thanks for your help and concern.

In July of 1999, the Chinese government officially banned FALUN GONG, a peaceful spiritual faith. Since that time, a tide of mass arrests and police brutality has swept the nation. Tens of thousands of practitioners of Falun Gong are currently in police detention, thousands more in labor reform camps. Several hundred have been sentenced to harsh prison terms in cursory show trials. Many sane and healthy practitioners have been shut away in psychiatric hospitals and forcibly given injections of drugs that damage the nervous system. Others have faced huge fines, loss of jobs, expulsion from schools, public humiliation, and severe torture. At least 203 Falun Gong practitioners have died in police custody since the crackdown began.

And yet Falun Gong practitioners continue to go to Tiananmen Square every day, peacefully but persistently protesting the government crackdown. There they are inevitably beaten down and taken off to detention centers where they face interrogation and torture. And still they keep going back. Why? Because this is the only way they have to show their government that Falun Gong is not a 'cult,' as the government has charged, but a legitimate and worthy spiritual discipline. Since the Chinese Communist Party is strictly atheist, many kinds of qigong, traditional practices, and underground Protestant and Catholic churches are also considered 'evil cults' in China.

Despite the suppression by the Chinese government, Falun Gong practitioners – students, retirees, workers, scholars, officials – still strive to follow the principles of Falun Gong: Truthfulness, Compassion, and Forbearance. No matter where they are, they endure silently and bear no hatred in their hearts. In the prisons, their great tolerance and kindness have sometimes even moved many hardened criminals to change their ways.